PATENT #2 2611-0171P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

ICHIBANGASE, Hiroshi et al.

Appl. No.:

New

Group:

Filed:

January 30, 2002

Examiner:

For:

REDUANDANT OPTICAL MULTI-BRANCH

COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (SUBMISSION CONCURRENT WITH THE FILING OF A NEW PATENT APPLICATION)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

January 30, 2002

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on PTO-1449, attached hereto.

II. COPIES

- Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.
- This application is a National Phase of a PCT application. Some or all of the documents listed on the PTO-1449 are not enclosed because they were cited in the International Search Report and copies should be forwarded from the International Search Authority. If copies are needed, please contact the undersigned.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE (check at least one box)

(cne	ck at	least one box)
a.		DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
		The attached patents, publications, or other information in the English language do not require a statement of relevancy.
b.		DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
		A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:
c.	\boxtimes	ENGLISH LANGUAGE SEARCH REPORT
		An English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(A)(3).
d.		OTHER
		The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

Rec'd PCT/PTO 30 JAN 2002

Docket No. 2611-0171P

FEES

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the filing of a new patent application; therefore, no fee is required.

If The Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned. If it is determined that this IDS has been filed under the wrong rule, the PTO is requested to consider this IDS under the proper rule and charge the appropriate fee to Deposit Account No. 02-2448.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

	Respectfully submitted,
	BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASZA & BIRCH, LLP
MKM/cqc 2611-0171 P	By Michael K. Mutter, #29,680 P.O. Box 747 Falls Church, VA 22040-0747 (703) 205-8000
Enclosures:	Form PTO-1449(s) Documents Foreign Search Report Fee Other: International Search Report

(Rev. 10/31/01)

10/048219 eet 1 of 1 (1/30/02) CT/PTO 30 JAN 2002

Form PTO-1449 ATTY DOCKET NO 2611-0171P New APPLICANT INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION ICHIBANGASE, Hiroshi et al. IN AN APPLICATION FILING DATE (Use several sheets if necessary) January 30, 2002 PATENT DOCUMENTS U.S. DATE FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE EXAMINER INITIAL DOCUMENT NUMBER NAME 5,539,564 A 1996-07-23 Kumozaki et al. FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS TRANSLATION COUNTRY DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE YES 7-250028 A 1995-09-26 JΡ 564 8-18594 A 1996-01-19 JP abs 1999-04-30 11-122172 A JΡ abs 10-313278 A 1998-11-24 abs JΡ 10-126432 A 1998-05-15 abs 10-4434 A 1998-01-06 JΡ abs 11-103268 A 1999-04-13 JΡ abs 11-88234 A 1999-03-30 JΡ abs 2000-78153 A 2000-03-14 JP abs 2001-177551 A 2001-06-29 JΡ abs 11-88394 A 3-30-99 JP Abs OTHER DOCUMENTS (Include Name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magasine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. ITU-T Recommendation G.983.1, Broadband Optical Access Systems Based on Passive Optical Netweors (PON), pp. 12-14, 105-106 (1998) DATE CONSIDERED EXAMINER EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.B.P. 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.